



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH  
LANSING

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GOVERNOR

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DIRECTOR

October 11, 2012

TO: Medical Control Authorities  
Advanced Life Support Agencies

FROM: Robin M. Shivley, Director  
Crime Victims, EMS and Trauma Division

RE: FDA Statement on Contaminated Medication – **IMPACT ON ALS AGENCIES**

**It was brought to our attention that the recent contaminated medication causing Fungal Meningitis may also impact drugs being carried by our ALS agencies.**

The FDA provided the following statement related to the Fungal Meningitis Outbreak:

“The New England Compounding Center (NECC), following an earlier recommendation by the FDA that none of the firm’s compounded products be used, announced a voluntary recall of all products currently in circulation that were compounded at and distributed from its facility in Framingham, Massachusetts.

The FDA is working closely with the CDC to investigate an outbreak of meningitis among patients who had received an epidural steroid injection. Investigation into the exact source of the outbreak is still ongoing, but the outbreak is associated with a potentially contaminated medication.

**Out of an abundance of caution, FDA is taking the additional step of recommending that health care professionals and consumers not use any product that was produced by NECC at this time.** In addition, FDA requests that health care professionals retain and secure all remaining products purchased from NECC until FDA provides further instructions regarding the disposition of these products.”

For more information please go to the following website:  
<http://www.fda.gov/Drugs/DrugSafety/ucm322734.htm>

In addition, the New England Compounding Center issued the following statement:

“New England Compounding Center (NECC) announced a recall of all products currently in circulation that were compounded at and distributed from its facility in Framingham, Massachusetts...The FDA had previously issued guidance for medical professional that all products distributed by NECC should be retained and secured. While there is no indication at this time of any contamination in other NECC products, this recall is being taken as a

precautionary measure. Products from NECC can be identified by markings that indicated NECC by name or acronym. A complete list of all products subject to this recall is available at the following website:

[http://www.neccrx.com/List\\_of\\_all\\_products\\_manufactured\\_since\\_January\\_2012.pdf](http://www.neccrx.com/List_of_all_products_manufactured_since_January_2012.pdf)

This products list is extensive and includes many medications carried by our Advanced Life Support agencies.

The Department is requesting that all Advanced Life Support agencies inventory their drug boxes to determine if any of the listed medications were manufactured or distributed by NECC. If medications are found, please be sure to remove these drugs from your boxes and work with your pharmacy to have them exchanged and secured.

Our office will post further updates on our website: [www.michigan.gov/ems](http://www.michigan.gov/ems)